

## WIT AND HUMOR.

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Bessie—"Please, ma'am, he caught his switch in some branches."—*Life.*

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Brown (to old snobs)—"I see dogs in rebuilding his house. Snobs—'He ain't doin' nothin' o' the sort; he's only takin' off one mortgage and puttin' on another.'"

It is said that in India perjury is a regular profession. We have no professional perjurers in this country; but there are some mighty skilled amateurs among us.

Devoted old husband—There, darling, is a diamond bracelet. Prigorous young wife—O, you dear old thing! How lovely! I'll remember you all day for that.

He—"It is charming on the water today; let us take a sail. What sort of a craft would you prefer?"

She—"I think a smack would be just too lovely for anything."—*Detroit Free Press.*

Office boy (to editor)—There's a female book-agent outside, sir, an' a red-eyed man just stepped from my door. Editor—Well, show the man what you want to put the editor in.—*Life.*

Mr. Mixemup, the interviewer—"And what strikes you as the most prominent feature in American literature?"

The Dook of Sharkey, just landed—"Please keep off the grass."—*Burlington.*

"These are hard times," sighed the young collector of money, as he looked at his watch. "I was just to-day in request to call again, but one, and that was when I dropped in to see my girl."—*Times Dispatch.*

Dr. William A. Hammond asserts that the brain is not an organ absolutely essential to life. Doubtless the doctor has just returned from his usual watering-place.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

Man is awfully smart in some things, but nobody has yet discovered what that could join a hat pin clear through his head and make it come out on the other side, as the women do.—*Dallas News.*

"It's no use," said Drencher, despairingly, after drinking his tenth glass of beer. "I can't get up any sensation on this stuff. The flesh is swelling, but the spirit is weak."—*Boston Transcript.*

Friend—Are you happy? Spirit (through medium)—Perfectly so. Friend—What has happened to you lately? Spirit—The epitaph on my tombstone. It both amazes and delights me.—*Boston Courier.*

Little brother (who has been to the park with his house)—Lily, Mr. Tipple is coming to see you to-night. Sister—How do you know? L. B.—I heard him say so when he kissed nurse good-by.—*Times Dispatch.*

"Have you ever made a study of the revenue, Mr. Spendthrift?" asked old Hysen. Well, no," responded Spendthrift. "I have made a study of it; I just kind of run through it."—*Burlington.*

A Spanish astronomer has ascertained that there are rain and snow on the moon the same as on the earth. The dark spot over the left ear of the man in the moon, then, must be an umbrella.—*Burlington Free Press.*

Suit (to Brown, who is late in getting home)—What have you got there, Brown? Brown—"That's new hat (sic) an' wife. I (die) let 'n' night key at home, an' got 't' have somethin' (sic) open for me to wear."—*New York Sun.*

"What's the matter, dear?" a West End belle was heard to ask of her pretty sister, who was sitting in an off corner of a seaside hotel, holding a copy of a hand to her head. "Ear ache."

"Dear me! Has that Russian Count been proposing to you too?"—*Philadelphia Record.*

One of the latest feats of endurance is that of playing the piano for thirty-six hours in one sitting. It is the player, and not the piano, that is awarded the prize for endurance. The disorganizer generally becomes exhausted and wants to die in the fourth hour.

Citizen (to undertaker)—I thought, Mr. Mould, that you were going off on a vacation? Undertaker—I did intend to start over to the States, but Mr. Bentley was taken dangerously ill and I've been sort of hanging on, and (in a low, injured tone of voice) I'll be blushed, sir, if she ain't getting better.

"Gracious! How well it is preserved," said one traveling man to another who he gazed at in a museum. "It looks as if it might be up and speak, if you could only arrange with some familiar words."—"So it does. Suppose you try it?"—*Merchant Traveler.*

The police officers at Niagara Falls have been instructed to arrest all persons who may hereafter visit there for the purpose of performing daring feats. This does not include the young man who takes his bride to the falls, with only \$50 in his pocket, and expects to have enough left to pay his fare home.

Dumley (whose credit is not first-class)—I say, Brown, you lend me \$10 for a few days? Brown—"I'm pulling out a roll of bills."—"I see. I'll have to, Dumley, Dumley."—"Thanks. You seem to have plenty of money, old fellow. Your tongue got started, and all that said is here, every word of it."

"Well, I'm going to start this thing off when he comes to-night to show him what marrying into this family means."—*Philadelphia Record.*

What is Rosewood? It has been a great mystery to many young persons who the dark, rich-colored wood so much used for furniture should be called "rosewood." It is a first cut, the fresh wood exhalation very strong, rose-like fragrance, which passes away, leaving no trace of the peculiar odor that these several varieties of rosewood trees; the best, however, are those found in South America and the East Indies, and neighboring islands.—*St. Nicholas.*

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A movement has been inaugurated for the consolidation of the flour mills and bakeries in Liverpool in a new establishment where the breadmaking of the city may be done in immense ovens, under the most highly scientific conditions and at a material saving in cost.

## The Sea-Serpent.

It is hardly necessary to say how old is the notion that huge monsters of the sea sort make their home deep in the seas, now and then showing themselves to terrify mankind. In fact, if the notion were not so old, as to seem to find its source in fables and mythological legends, one reason for doubting the reality of the creature would be removed. Most of these extremely ancient descriptions come from the Northern lands, and the cold oceans of Scandinavia. Thus, one ancient author, Olaus Magnus, speaks of a sea-serpent two hundred feet long that rose from the waves, towered above a ship's mast, and snatched up cattle and men in its jaws. In the old "Chronicle of Prodigious and Portents," by Conrad Wolfhart, a German of the sixteenth century, we find strange, rude pictures of serpentine creatures, in which he put all due faith; there is the "Alcete," an animal with a scaly body and a head like a wild boar, and the "Physer," a large frisk of a sea monster, several miles long, which came up from the sea and attacked vessels; but as his picture shows the alarmed crews discharging cannon at the foe some twelve centuries before cannon were in use, there may be some errors.

To come to later accounts, a 1639 English traveler named Josselyn, who came over to New England on a visit, was told of a sea-serpent that lay coiled on some rocks at Cape Ann, Massachusetts. He should have served how early Massachusetts waters and the New England coast became the regions linked with appearances of the mysterious creature. Some Indians who rowed near this one, in a skiff, were sorely frightened and warned the Englishmen with them not to go on, or they would be in peril. Unluckily, Mr. Josselyn was not of the boat party, and the result is that we get this account only by hearsay.

The next recorded appearance is a singular description by the Rev. Hans Egede, a distinguished missionary to Greenland, who records in his diary, in 1724, the rising to the surface of the sea near his parish of a "monster" so huge in size that, coming out of the water, its head reached as high as the mainmast. It had a long, pointed snout, and spouted like a whale. The under part of the body was shaped like that of a huge serpent. This remarkable creature seems to have been much like a giant-squid than like any animal of the serpent kind.

Two records of our mysterious monster, with plenty of details, now follow. Joseph Kent, seaman, beheld in Broad Bay, in May, 1751, a great serpent longer and thicker than the main-mast of his eighty-five-ton ship, and good Bishop Pontoppidan, in his famous "Natural History of Norway," tells us that the Norwegian coast is the only European shore visited by the creature, and that a formidable specimen, six hundred feet long, with its extended head looking like a row of floating hogheads, was chased by a boat crew of eight sailors under a certain Captain de Ferry, but that it escaped.

Passing by the segment of Eleazar Crabtree, who declares that in 1778 he saw this shy swimmer on the surface of Ponobscot Bay, we reach a really important record of the monster, 1778. In that year Commodore Piche (afterward so famous as one of our naval heroes, but then a young midshipman) pursued with a boat crew twelve swarms, a monster—a sea-serpent between one hundred and one hundred and fifty feet in length, with a head as large as a cow's, and a tail as long as a ship's mast. It was observed at intervals for an hour. It is at least odd, if there was any deception, that the monster was seen by a midshipman, and not by a boat crew.

Little sighted what seems to have been the same snake, in Round Pond, Broad Bay.—*Edmund Trevelyan's Story in St. Nicholas.*

Read a statement in this magazine not long ago, about the spiders' webs that cover the walls of the earth in certain mornings in the summer, which was not entirely exact. It is not quite true, in the sense in which it was uttered, that these spiders' webs are abundant on some mornings more than on others, and that they presage fair weather. Now the truth is, that during the latter half of summer these webs are about as abundant at one time as at another; but they are much more noticeable on some mornings than on others, and they are especially conspicuous after a morning of fog, such as often fills our deeper valleys for a few hours about fair weather. They then look like a spider's web, and are then more serviceable to the spiders, because less visible.

The first of these webs would avoid them in the morning, but at midday they do not detect them so readily.

If these webs have any significance as signs of the coming weather, this may be the explanation:

A heavy dew occurs under a clear, cool sky, and the night preceding a day of rain is usually a dewless night. Much dew, then, means fair weather, and a copious dew discloses the spiders' webs. It is the dew that is significant, and not the webs.—*John Burroughs, in St. Nicholas.*

A Matrimonial Object-Lesson.

"What's that sternly," interrogated a Philadelphia dame the other morning her spouse after dressing, began to fumble over a contrivance she was pulling out of a roll of bills.—"I see. I'll have to, Dumley, Dumley."—"Thanks. You seem to have plenty of money, old fellow. Your tongue got started, and all that said is here, every word of it."

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## A. T. SMITH.

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GRAND JUBILEE celebrating the Settlement of the Northwestern Territory.

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Near Lake Weir, Marion County (the Banner County of Florida). Ten acres or more at \$10 per acre. First-class land for raising Oranges, Lemons, Limes, Figs, Bananas, Peaches, Plums, Berries, &c., &c. All Vegetables. Also, Corn, Rye, Oats, Tobacco, Sugar, &c. Finest Hunting and Fishing.

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To secure a Home. Warm in Winter, delightful in Summer. No swampy, high, rolling, healthy country. Rapidly settling up with a fine class of Northern people. Near railroads, low freight rates. Special cheap passenger rates from Ravenna, via New York and steamers. \$31.90 to Ocala. Tickets for sale.

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Dr. PERKINS, of Ocala, representing this property, as well as other lands, has been authorized to receive applications, and to give full information, exhibit soil, lands, photos, &c.

A small colony from Ravenna and vicinity is already formed, and will leave about October 1st. Those wishing to join, please apply to the following:

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In the County, now.

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FRANK McTYE.

Three Doors East of Town Hall.

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The Old Doctors

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